

REMARKS

A. Introduction

Claims 1-4 and 6-11 were pending and under consideration in the application.

In the Office Action of June 20, 2008 claims 1-4, and 6-8 were allowed.

Claims 9-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gowda, et al., U.S. 6,275,259 (hereinafter, "*Gowda*") in view of Fowler, U.S. 6,757,018 (hereinafter, "*Fowler*"), further in view of Pain, et al., U.S. 7,268,814 (hereinafter, "*Pain*").

Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Gowda* and *Fowler*, in view of *Pain* and further in view of Blerkom, et al., U.S. 6,870,565 (hereinafter, "*Blerkom*").

In response, Applicant seeks to amend claims 9-11 for clarity, and to incorporate a limitation previously presented in claim 1 that an AD memory comprises a plurality of unit memories in a two-dimensional array corresponding to a pixel arrangement in the pixel array for storing analog signals, each unit memory including an analog to digital converter circuit. Accordingly, no new matter is being added.

Applicant submits that the Examiner should enter the offered amendment, because the amendment places the case in condition for allowance. 37 CFR §1.116; MPEP 714.12, 714.13.

B. Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a)

1. Claims 9-10 were rejected as being unpatentable over *Gowda* in view of *Fowler*, further in view of *Pain*.

Claim 9, as amended, is patentable over the combination of *Gowda*, *Fowler*, and *Pain* for at least the same reasons as claim 1, which the Office Action found to be allowable.

Because a dependent claim includes all the limitations of the claim from which it depends, claim 10 is also patentable over this combination of references.

2. Claim 11 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Gowda* and *Fowler*, in view of *Pain* and further in view of *Blerkom*. Claim 11 depends from claim 9. For the reasons given above, claim 9 is patentable over the combination of Gowda, Fowler and Pain. As a result, claim 11 is also patentable over this combination of references.

C. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that claims 1-4 and 6-11 are allowable and that the application is in condition for allowance. Early notice to that effect is respectfully requested.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this amendment, please charge the same to out Deposit Account No. 19-3140.

Respectfully submitted,
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